

# Amusements

## Theater and Photoplay

As a people, at least theatrically, we are getting to be the most kind of folk, familiar and even intimate with everybody and everything. It is true that foreigners do not often understand us, but Zouls, what matters it? It is whispered that one of the attaches of a foreign legation recently was greeted with a vigorous slap on the back by a prominent man. Who just wanted to be a good fellow. But the attaché afterward inquired with a pained look on his face why a national legislator should assault him. Of course, we Americans are used to having the ladies of the revenue hop blithely over the stage, through the aisles of the theater and even kiss our too prominent bald heads, just to be sociable, and we have long been used to the delightful penchant of the ingenue and the comedian for singling us out in the audience, with the aid of the spotlight, to put over a laugh. Everybody understands and everybody is happy—that is everybody but the fellow who is singled out; but why worry? The genial and democratic young Prince of Wales, a thoroughgoing fellow in every respect, was merely amused with much of our familiarity, and when they loaded him down in Honolulu recently with the heavy flower strings or wreaths that are considered the highest mark of Hawaiian hospitality, he looked amazed at first, then broke into a smile and visibly made an effort to conceal his real feelings. Wonder what he will say and how he will feel when he learns all about the new play that uses him for a loving hero and puts him in a position that would be contemplated only with horror in his own land. But—phew!—he's only a prince anyway, and this is the land of unbridled democracy. Didn't we fight to make the world safe for it? \*

Theatrical news informs us that David Belasco will soon send a new comedy, "Call the Doctor," by Joseph Archibald, with a cast of promising players. It is scheduled for the Shubert-Belasco week of May 21. Wagenhals and Collin Kemper, who recently announced their intention to re-enter the theatrical field as producing managers this summer, have selected a site near Broadway, on 49th street, and will erect a theater to be called the National Theater, which will be ready for its opening production in the early spring of 1921. When this theater opens there will come simultaneously into existence a stock company which both members of the firm believe will be unique in the American theater. It will be along the lines of the famous stock company of the early '90s. It will be a co-operative stock company with thirteen members. The actors, so to speak, will be guaranteed a certain sum to meet their living expenses and will in addition share in the profits. According to the plan, they will not only receive their proportional share of the profits from productions in which they appear personally, but they will receive also royalties on subsequent productions of the same play by road companies or in other countries. The National Theater will be a repertory theater in the sense that new productions will go on frequently, but it will be also the home of nearly all the productions of the firm and the success of each production will govern its run. It is expected that these ambitious plans will go to make a unique chapter in the history of the American theater.

**NATIONAL—"Romeo and Jane."** This week's play at the National Theater, "Romeo and Jane," is laid in Washington, in a garden, and the story is of Dr. Kenyon's family, that concerns itself with the high cost of living and the other tangles of existence. Over the garden wall comes romance in the person of a jaunty young officer. To Jane he is Romeo, and from the moment of his entrance life in the Kenyon family loses all the prosaic quality it had. Jane and Jane's saucy qualities add to an adventure if you have the right partner. This is the first comedy John Golden has brought to Washington since "Lightnin'" and "Three Wise Fools."

**POLIS—"A Question of Time."** "A Question of Time," is a new play by Emily Ann Wellman that A. H. Woods will present at the Shubert-Belasco week, beginning tomorrow night. It incorporates original ideas of Miss Wellman in settings and scenes of the future. The fifteen scenes of this three-act drama are called "cinemologue flashes." Besides being novel and pleasing to the eye they concentrate interest on the story which deals with the tribulations experienced by a young couple from their honeymoon days to the realization of a better understanding.

The cast includes Miriam Elliott, Ethel Clayton, Ethel Winthrop, Jane Loring, Lenore Masso, Claire Mesereau, Judith Vosseli, Lawrence White, Edward Power and others. The final performance of "Monte Christo, Jr.," this evening.

**BELASCO—"The Sympathetic Twin."** The Belasco Theater this week, opening tomorrow evening, will present "The Sympathetic Twin," featuring Richard Carle. It is a two-act musical comedy, composed of "Sunshine" and "Fiddlers Three," and the dialogue and lyrics by Mr. Carle.

The cast in this play are Romulus and Remus, sons of Lochinvar Butts, Mr. Carle will appear as the harassed New Testament as they did before the birth of the boy. The plot hinges on the situation in which Romulus finds himself, due to the telephonic influence of his scapegoat brother.

Zella Rambeau, Virginia Smith, Gertrude Egan, Olga Danowski, Harry Loring, Jules Espallay, Walter Lee, Leon Louis Cassavant, Harry Hoyland and Harry O'Brien are in the cast. A customary grand opera orchestra, which Alexander Johnstone insists upon is promised.

**SHUBERT-GARRICK—"The Naughty Wife."** Snappy farce will hold forth at the Shubert-Garrick week, when the Shubert-Garrick players will offer "The Naughty Wife," originally produced in New York by the Selwyns. The play is replete with humor and is a dramatic comedy, which will be an important feature in the cast, which will include Anne Morrison, John Roche, Edith Campbell Walker, Midge Bellamy, Edward Mackay and others.

**B. F. KEITH'S—Kitty Gordon.** Kitty Gordon, the English comedienne, will be the feature of the B. F. Keith Theater this week, assisted by Guy and Pearl Magley, dancers, and Jules de Vorzon and Frank Conway in a series of novel and spectacular incidents garnished with songs and dances. Jack Wilson, eccentric blackface comedian, supported by Frank Griffith and Vera Beresford, will be seen in "The Surprise," a novel satirical story, song and comedy. Julius Tannen, a former vaudeville light, will be the third star in the "The Kiss Burglar."

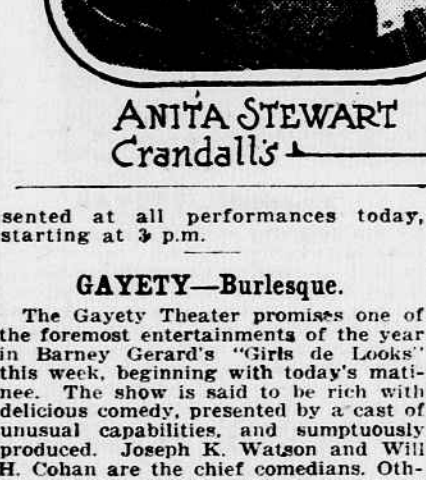
The play is arranged in fourteen scenes, beginning with the prophecy of the coming of the Messiah and ending with the ascension.

**Shubert Opera House.**—The comedians and singers for the coming Shubert opera season at the National Theater beginning May 21 includes Forrest Huff and Fritz von Bussing, who have been touring the New York Winter Garden shows headed by Al Johnson; John R. Phillips, the well remembered tenor of former seasons; Arthur Cunningham, who appeared in the Shubert revivals of Gilbert & Sullivan operas; and with them the American stage in Gaston Glass.

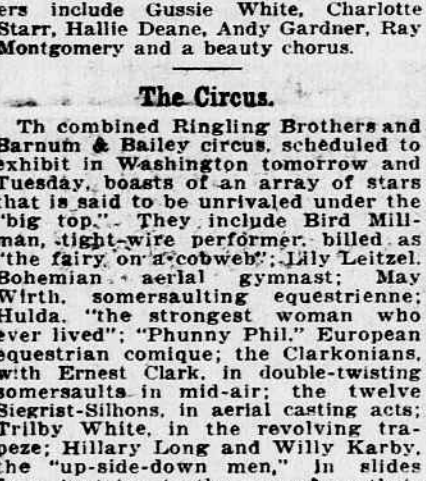
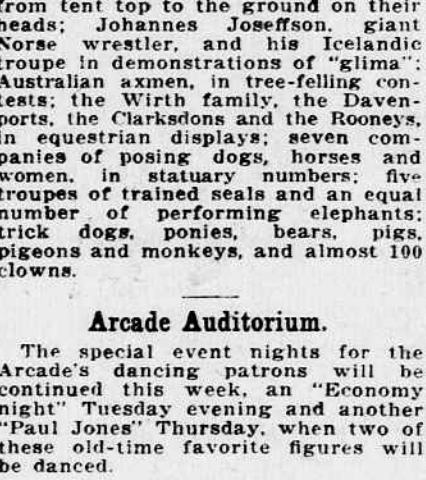
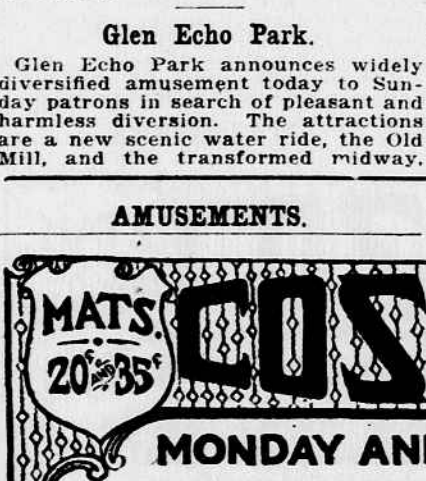
Mr. Glass is a grandson of Sarah Bernhardt. He was educated in the Conservatoire in Paris, the state institution in which practically all the great French artists received their training. His first appearance in this country was with the divine Sarah Bernhardt last year, and it was then that Mr. Glass saw the possibilities of the French youth and decided some day to bring him to the front on his own reputation.

Speaking of fronts Mr. Glass was a French aviator in the war and was wounded while flying at Noyons.

A Theater League. — Lincoln A.

ZELLA RAMBEAU  
Shubert-BelascoLOUISE GLAUM  
Metropolitan

CONSTANCE TALMADGE - Rialto

ANITA STEWART  
Crandall'sOLIVE THOMAS  
ColumbiaCHARLOTTE STARR  
GayetyETHEL CLAYTON  
PalaceMIRIAM  
ELLIOTT  
Polis

MARY HAYNES - Cosmos

